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superficial (not sunk in pits), closely covering the surface of the berry, which is produced continuously from June to November. Propagating very rapidly by stolons or runners; also by side stools or offshoots from the central crown, which are tuberous and easily separated. Height of plant twelve to fifteen inches. Perennial; May to November. — [G. W. CLINTON, *Buffalo*.

ZOÖLOGY.

NEW SALAMANDER. — Prof. E. D. Cope informs us that he has just discovered an interesting genus of Salamanders from Mexico. It differs from *Sperlerpes*, in having the parietal and palatine bones unossified, and the inner nares opening into the orbits. The phenygooid teeth are in one patch. Toes, four on the front feet and five on the hind, rudimentary. The tail is as long as the head and body together. The total length is only two inches. It has a pale dorsal band and black sides. A female specimen contained eggs one line in diameter. He has called the species, which is a new generic type, *Thorius pennatribus*.

BREEDING OF RARE BIRDS. — Mr. G. A. Boardman, of Milltown, Me., writes us (Nov., 1868) that he collected the nests and eggs of the following birds in the spring of 1868: — Gos-hawk, Canada Jay, White-winged Crossbill, Pine Finch, and the Pine Grosbeak.

TENNESSEE WARBLER. — In the June (1868) NATURALIST, Mr. Tripp in his interesting article, states that this warbler is not found in New England, or only as a straggler. With us it is one of our very common warblers, and I can collect half a dozen almost any morning about the twentieth of May. A few remain through the season. — G. A. BOARDMAN,

PERCHING OF WILSON'S SNIPE. — In the August (1868) NATURALIST you ask if, like Mr. Pope, any one has observed Wilson's Snipe on trees? This is not an uncommon habit of the bird, when you are taking its nest or catching its young; but I have never observed it at any other time. Of our sixteen species of ducks, I have observed the same thing in all but two, when trying to catch their young. — G. A. B.

MICROSCOPY.

TYPE-PLATE OF DIATOMS. — Möller of Wedel, Holstein, has accomplished the most wonderful feat of modern manipulation, with the exception, perhaps, of Nobert's ruled lines. The slides he prepares have been described to us in the letter of a correspondent, who is the fortunate possessor of two. "The diatoms (four hundred species in all), arranged by genera and species, form groups of one hundred, set with the most perfect regularity and symmetry, and the whole occupies a space of about three-sixteenths of an inch. Each slide is a cabinet, — a collection in itself, — and is accompanied by a catalogue of its contents. This one is called the 'Type Plate,' and cost \$40.00. The 'Test Plate,' from the same operator, contains, set in one row with the most perfect regularity, twenty tests, by order of difficulty."